Docket No. 0879-0271P

Art Unit: 2612

Response filed May 27, 2005

Page 2 of 18

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An electronic camera, comprising:

an imaging device which images a subject so as to acquire image data

with an imaging luminance range wider than a reproducing luminance range

on at least one of displaying and printing; and

a recording device which converts the image data acquired by the

imaging device with a predetermined function and records the converted image

data and information on the predetermined function records an information

indicating that the acquired image data is imaged with the imaging luminance

range along with the image data acquired by the imaging device.

2. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, wherein the

imaging luminance range is at least two and at most six times as wide as the

reproducing luminance range.

3. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, wherein the

imaging device images the subject with an exposure value that is lower than a

normal exposure value for desired reproducing.

U.S. Application No. 09/654,263
Docket No. 0879-0271P
Art Unit: 2612
Response filed May 27, 2005
Page 3 of 18

- 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Currently amended) The electronic camera as set forth in claim-4 34, wherein the recording device records the first-order coefficient as attached information for the image data in the same image file as the image data.
- 6. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 5, wherein the recording device records the image file in one of a directory and a holder provided for each form of conversion.

7. (Canceled)

- 8. (Currently amended) The electronic camera as set forth in claim—7 35, wherein the recording device records the at least one of the base, the first-order coefficient and the zero-order coefficient as attached information for the image data in the same image file as the image data.
- 9. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 8, wherein the recording device records the image file in one of a directory and a holder provided for each form of conversion.

Docket No. 0879-0271P

Art Unit: 2612

Response filed May 27, 2005

Page 4 of 18

10. (Currently amended) The electronic camera as set forth in claim-1

33, wherein the recording device represents a relationship between the image

data and a digital value to be recorded while dividing the relationship into an

area where the relationship is represented by a logarithmic function and an

area where the relationship is represented by a linear function, and records at

least one of a base, a first-order coefficient and a zero-order coefficient of the

logarithmic function and a first-order coefficient of the linear function with the

image data.

11. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 10, wherein

the recording device records the at least one of the base, the first-order

coefficient and the zero-order coefficient of the logarithmic function and the

first-order coefficient of the linear function as attached information for the

image data in the same image file as the image data.

12. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 11, wherein

the recording device records the image file in one of a directory and a holder

provided for each form of conversion.

Docket No. 0879-0271P

Art Unit: 2612

Response filed May 27, 2005

Page 5 of 18

13. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, wherein the

recording device converts output voltage values from photoelectric converting

devices with a filter arrangement of R, G, B and G of a CCD into digital values

and records the digital values.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, further

comprising a mode switching device which switches between a normal imaging

mode in which the subject is imaged with the same luminance range as the

reproducing luminance range and a wide luminance range imaging mode in

which the subject is imaged with the imaging luminance range that is wider

than the reproducing luminance range.

16. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 15, wherein:

the subject is imaged with a normal exposure value obtained from

normal photometry in the normal imaging mode; and

the subject is imaged with an exposure value lower than the normal

exposure value, the exposure value being calculated according to the normal

exposure value obtained by the normal photometry.

U.S. Application No. 09/654,263
Docket No. 0879-0271P
Art Unit: 2612
Response filed May 27, 2005
Page 6 of 18

17. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recording device records the image data with the same luminance range as the reproducing luminance range and records the image data with the imaging luminance range that is wider than the reproducing luminance range at one time.

18. (Original) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 17, wherein:

the imaging device images the subject with an exposure value of a case in which the subject is imaged with the imaging luminance range that is wider than the reproducing luminance range; and

the recording device converts the image data acquired by the imaging device with the exposure value so that the luminance range of the image data is the same as the reproducing luminance range.

19-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) An electronic image recording and reproducing system, comprising:

U.S. Application No. 09/654,263
Docket No. 0879-0271P
Art Unit: 2612
Response filed May 27, 2005
Page 7 of 18

an imaging device which images a subject so as to acquire <u>first</u> imaged data with a recording luminance range wider than a reproducing luminance range on at least one of displaying and printing;

a recording device which converts records the first imaged data acquired by the imaging device with a predetermined function into a first image data and records the first image data and luminance range information relating at least the predetermined function the recording luminance range;

a reading device which reads the first image data with the recording luminance range and reads the luminance range information;

a signal processing device which produces, from the first image data with the recording luminance range, second image data with a luminance range required on the reproducing according to the luminance range information; and a reproducing device comprising at least one of:

a displaying device which displays the second image data as the visible image; and

a printer which prints the second image data as the visible image.

32. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recording device further records an information indicating maximum reflectance set in the electronic camera.

Docket No. 0879-0271P

Art Unit: 2612

Response filed May 27, 2005

Page 8 of 18

33. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, wherein the

recording device converts image data acquired by the imaging device with a

predetermined function, records the converted image data, and further records

an information on the predetermined function.

34. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 33, wherein the

recording device represents a relationship between the image data and a digital

value to be recorded by a linear function and records at least a first-order

coefficient of the linear function.

35. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 33, wherein the

recording device represents a relationship between the image data and a digital

value to be recorded by a logarithmic function and records at least one of a

base, a first-order coefficient and a zero-order coefficient of the logarithmic

function.

36. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 15, wherein the

recording records the image data acquired by the imaging device into a

Docket No. 0879-0271P

Art Unit: 2612

Response filed May 27, 2005

Page 9 of 18

directory or a folder corresponding to the imaging mode switched by the mode

switching device.

37. (New) An electronic camera for recording image data obtained by

imaging a subject, comprising:

an imaging device having a normal imaging mode in which the subject is

imaged with a luminance range required in reproducing or printing or both and

a wide luminance range imaging mode in which the subject is imaged with a

wide imaging luminance range wider than the luminance range required in

reproducing or printing or both, the imaging device for imaging the subject

according to at least one of the normal imaging mode and the wide luminance

imaging mode; and

a recording device for recording an image data acquired by the imaging

device into a directory or a folder corresponding to one of the normal imaging

mode and the wide luminance imaging mode.

38. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 37, further

comprising a mode switching device which switches between the normal

imaging mode and the wide luminance imaging mode.